

Summary of Joint Restriction and Election of Species Requirement

In the Joint Restriction and Election of Species Requirement dated March 21, 2008, the Examiner indicated that the subject application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct or independent inventions:

Group I. Claims 1-18 drawn to a corrugated pipe; and

Group II. Claim 19 drawn to a method of connecting two conduits.

Additionally, the Examiner indicated that the subject application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species:

Figure 1;

Figure 5;

Figure 6; and

Figure 7.

In view of the above, the Examiner has requested that Applicant elect a single invention and a single species for prosecution on the merits.

Election

In response to the Restriction Requirement, Applicant hereby elects the invention designated by the Examiner as Group I, namely claims 1-18, for prosecution on the merits.

In response to the Election of Species Requirement, Applicant hereby elects, without traverse, the species designated by the Examiner as Figure 1, namely claims 1, 2, 4-9, 12, and 14-18, for prosecution on the merits. Additionally, Applicant submits that claims 1, 2, 4-8, 12, and 14-18 are generic to all of the species claimed in the subject application. As noted by the Examiner, upon allowance of a generic claim, Applicant will be entitled to consideration of additional species, provided that all claims to each additional species are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 C.F.R. § 1.141.

Conclusion

With the above election, it is respectfully submitted that the subject application is now in condition for examination on the merits. Applicant believes that no fee is due with this Response. However, if a fee is due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 02-2051, specifically identifying Docket No. 29391-1.

Respectfully submitted,

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